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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/047,676	03/25/1998	NAOHIRO KAGEYAMA	05058/66601	3496

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EXAMINER

HO, TUAN V

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2612

DATE MAILED: 04/11/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/047,676

Applicant(s)

KAGEYAMA ET AL.

Examiner

TUAN HO

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 February 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 11-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 11-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

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1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 and 11-22 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1 and 11-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Makioka et al (US 6,002,429) in view of Watanabe et al(5,978,020).

With regard to claim 11, Makioka et al discloses in Fig. 1, a digital still video camera that comprises the camera storing data (frame memory 16, col. 4, line 13), external apparatus (monitor 2 or memory card 1, col. 4, line 22 and col. 5, line 22), connection device (connection terminals shown in Fig. 1 is used to connect monitor 2 or memory card 1 to camera circuits of camera 10), connector (connection terminals inherently includes connectors that is used to directly connect monitor 2 and memory card 1), and controller (controller 30), except for the detector

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and controller for transitioning the camera into a state in order to output image data.

Makioka et al does not explicitly disclose any detector and controller for transitioning the camera into a state in order to output image data. However, Watanabe et al teaches using an image pickup system that comprises CPU 4 working in combination with an interface detects a connection between monitor 7 and the camera so as to process image data in accordance with characteristics of monitor 7 (col. 10, lines 62-67 and col. 11, lines 25-55); and control unit 17 controls DSP 13 that processes image data so as to output image data matched to the display 7 (col. 11, lines 47-63).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the controller 30 of Makioka in order to detect the connection between camera 10 and monitor 2 or memory card 1, and place the Y/C processing circuit 18 in a state in order to output image data through the connector as the same fashion as disclosed by Watanabe et al. This is because the modification of the controller 30 of Makioka would allow the camera system of Makioka to detect an external device to be connected to the camera, and thereby to provide matching image data to an external device.

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With regard to claim 14, Makioka discloses the storage device (memory card 1).

With regard to claims 12, 13, and 15, Makioka does not explicitly disclose any personal computer, printer, and connection cable. Official Notice is taken for a personal computer, printer, and a connection cable.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to replace the monitor or memory card of Makioka with a personal computer, printer or a connection cable in order to obtain the digital camera 10 is connected to a personal computer, printer or a connection cable and thereby to improve the versatility of the camera system since the camera can be adapted and used in a plurality of different external devices.

With regard to claim 16, Watanabe et al teaches using CPU 4 that detects the connections and controls controller 17; where the controller 17 controls processing circuit 18 to output image data to monitor 2 as discussed with respect to claim 11.

Claims 17 and 22 recite what was discussed with respect to claims 15 and 14.

With regard to claim 18, claim 18 recites what was discussed with respect to claim 13; wherein the controller 30 controls outputting image data to a printer.

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With regard to claim 19, claim 19 recites what was discussed with respect to claim 15; wherein the controller 30 controls outputting image data to the connection cable.

With regard to claim 20, claim 20 recites what was discussed with respect to claim 12; wherein the controller 30 controls outputting image data to a personal computer.

With regard to claim 21, Makioka in view of Watanabe et al discloses the same subject matter as discussed with respect to claim 16. It is noted that when no device is connected to the digital camera. The controller does not detect any connection between the camera and an external device. Therefore; the camera inherently inhibits the stored image data from memory 16 to be output to the connection.

With regard to claim 1, Makioka discloses in Fig. 1, the first format (image data is generated from image sensor CCD 12) and the second format (Y/C processing circuit 18 processes image data from memory 19 so as to display on the monitor).

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Ozawa et al (US 6,115,137) discloses an image processing system that comprises a printer connection.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tuan Ho whose telephone number is (703) 305-4943. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 7:00 to 4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wendy Garber, can be reached on (703) 305-4929.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

th

April 9, 2003


TUAN HO
PRIMARY EXAMINER